

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /100 W

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R 140830Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9222

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 8483

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB PINT IN

SUBJ: ICFTU-ARO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN BANGKOK

1. FBSI GENERAL CHAIRMAN AGUS SUDONO TOLD LABATT TODAY THAT ARO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN BANGKOK LAST WEEK DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF CENSURING MRS GANDHI, BUT DECIDED TO POSTPONE ACTION PENDING DISCUSSION BY OTTO KERSTEN WITH MRS GANDHI IN NEW DELHI THIS WEEK. THE BOARD DID NOT WISH TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD PREJUDICE A MEETING BY KERSTEN WITH MRS GANDHI AND WITH INDIAN MINISTER OF LABOR REDDY. ACCORDING TO SUDONO, KERSTEN HAD HAD A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH WILLY BRANDT IN WHICH BRANDT AUTHORIZED KERSTEN TO CONVEY TO MRS GANDHI THE STRONG DISMAY OF EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS AT MRS GANDHI'S RECENT ANTI DEMONSTRATION ACTIONS IN INDIA. SUDONO STATES THAT KERSTEN HAS BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE STATEMENT CRITICAL OF MRS GANDHI IF HE DOES NOT GET SOME SATISFATION IN THE MEETING WITH HER.

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2. ACCORDING TO SUDOMO, ARO EXECUTIVE BOARD TOOK MAJOR DECISION TO MOVE THE ICFTU COLLEGE FROM NEW DELHI TO SINGAPORE. FINAL DECISION ON THIS IS EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE ARO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN MANILA MAY 10-15, 1976. DETAILS OF THE MOVE ARE TO BE WORKED OUT OUT AT A MEETING OF THE ICFTU WORKERS EDUCATION COMMITTEE IN MEXICO CITY IN OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR. (NOTE: SUDONO IS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE AND PLANS TO ATTEND THE MEETING). AS PART OF THE DECISION TO MOVE THE COLLEGE, A DECISION WAS MADE TO "INTERNATIONALIZE" ITS STAFF, WHICH IS NOW REPORTEDLY OVER 90 PERCENT INDIAN. THE DECISION TO MOVE THE COLLGE HAS BEEN PENDING FOR SOME TIME BUT WAS APPARENTLY TRIGGERED BY MRS GANDHI'S RECENT POLITICAL ACTIONS. OTHER REASONS INCLUDED THE DIFFICULTY OF GETTING VISAS TO INDIA FOR TAIWANESE AND PAKISTANI LABOR LEADERS AND THE FACT THAT SINGAPORE IS GEOGRAPHICALLY MORE CONTRALLY LOCATED FOR ARO MEMBERS. COMMENT: WHAT SUDONO LEFT UNDERSTATED BUT UNDERSTOOD WAS THAT ARO MEMBERS HAVE LONG BEEN RESENTFUL OF INDIAN DOMINATION OF THE COLLEGE.

NEWSOM

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